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Front Page Edit Page Other Page

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Surveillance Of CIA

PAST EFFORTS to bring the Central Intelligence Agency under some meaningful scrutiny by Congress have not gotten far. Those who espouse the CIA's viewpoint have thwarted such moves. The argument is that the CIA's efforts to keep a highly secret undertaking would be crippled if Congress were to ask embarrassing questions.

This argument has come up against some arguments which, in our judgment, are more

The CIA is being called increasingly into question for its evident dabbling in foreign policy. Some of its clandestine operations are demonstrably not for the purpose of gathering intelligence and sometimes constitute interference in the affairs of other nations.

This imperils the national interest of the United States. The fact that little is known about CIA operations, so that observers are forced into the icy waters of conjecture, is in itself dangerous. Secret or not, the CIA should in reasonable measure be subject to the same rule that applies to all federal agencies: it is the public's business, and the public has a right to know what it is up to.